

## Termination of Pregnancy (Live Births) Amendment Bill 2024

**Submission No:** 351  
**Submitted by:** Matthew Sweetman  
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**From:** Matthew Sweetman [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 3 May 2024 8:05 PM  
**To:** HEAC  
**Subject:** Write your subject line here

Committee Secretary  
Health, Environment and Agriculture Committee  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2006  
AUSTRALIA  
Fri May 03 2024  
Public Submission by Matthew Sweetman.

Dear Committee,

My name is Matt, I have lived in Queensland for the last thirty years.

Babies, are literally the most vulnerable member of our society. They have no capacity to care for themselves and rely upon the mature around them for nurturing. Nevertheless, world history has testified to the frequency of children being harmed and neglected at the hands of adults.

The burden of responsibility for the care of children—babies most particularly, must rest first and foremostly with the immediate family members, beginning with parents. In this sense, the Government is secondary, and should seek wherever possible in my view to allow the family unit to function according to its own volition. Yet the hospitals in which these abortions procedures are performed, are—at present—within the remit of the Government’s responsibility. As a Government run insabduction, such places must surely reflect the principles of protection and good-doing, to the full extent which we would expect in any other arena of society. To suggest that a living child would be neglected in say, a police station, would be considered a terrible inditement on the Government.

As those entrusted with the stewardship of the Government by our society at this present moment, it befalls you as committee members to determine whether we as a State will take a course of contributing further to the narrative of injustice that many children have suffered throughout history, or to make recommendations that could contribute to the care of a hurting individual of our society.

I urge you as committee members to view this not from a pragmatic political standpoint, but to understand the entirely mabcd and ethical ramifications of this issue. To do so requires measures of courage as it is not the easier road, but I want to abcdure you I that you are the people able to do this.

Sincerely, Matthew Sweetman

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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